Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A method, performed by ~~a device~~ one or more server devices, comprising:

identifying, using a processor ~~associated with~~ of the ~~device~~ one or more server devices, an implicitly defined semantic structure in a document, where a plurality of rules are associated with the implicitly defined semantic structure, and where the semantic structure includes a list having a header and a plurality of items associated with the header;

determining, using [[the]] a processor of the one or more server devices, a location of a first term and a location of a second term within the list;

selecting, using [[the]] a processor of the one or more server devices, one of the plurality of rules, as a selected rule, based on a relationship of the locations of the first and second terms within the implicitly defined semantic structure,

where a first rule of the plurality of rules is selected when the first term is located in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in a different one of the plurality of items,

where a second rule of the plurality of rules, different than the first rule, is selected when the first term is located in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in the same one of the plurality of items, and

where a third rule of the plurality of rules, different than the first rule and

the second rule, is selected when the first term is located in the header and the

second term is located in one of the plurality of items;

determining, using [[the]] a processor of the one or more server devices, a

distance value, reflecting a distance between the first and second terms, using a function

based on the selected rule, where the function differs based on whether the selected rule

corresponds to the first rule, the second rule, or the third rule; and

outputting, using [[the]] a processor of the one or more server devices, the

distance value to rank the document for relevancy to a search query that includes the first

term and the second term.

2.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, where the document being is

an HTML (Hyper-Text Markup Language) document.

3.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, where the list is created

with HTML tags.

4.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, where the HTML tags

include paragraph tags, new line tags, bold tags, or table tags.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

locating explicitly defined semantic structures.

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~where the function calculates~~
the distance value ~~being calculated~~ as a word count, between the first and second terms in
the document, augmented by the selected rule ~~ones of the rules related to the implicitly~~
~~defined semantic structure~~.

8.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, where identifying the
implicitly defined semantic structure includes:

identifying repeating occurrences of a set of two or more text formatting
commands.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Currently amended) A system comprising:
a device comprising:

means for identifying an implicitly defined semantic structure associated
with terms in a document, where a number of rules are associated with the
implicitly defined semantic structure, and where the semantic structure includes a
list including a header and a plurality of items associated with the header;

means for determining a location relationship between a pair of the terms within the list;

means for ~~determining which~~ selecting one of the number of rules, as a selected rule, corresponding ~~corresponds~~ to the location relationship;

where a first rule of the number of rules is determined to correspond to the location relationship when the first term is located in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in a different one of the plurality of items;

where a second rule of the number of rules, different than the first rule, is determined to correspond to the location relationship when the first term is located in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in the same one of the plurality of items; and

where a third rule of the number of rules, different than the first rule and the second rule, is determined to correspond to the location relationship when the first term is located in the header and the second term is located in one of the plurality of items;

means for determining a distance value between the pair of terms using a function that is based on the [[one]] selected rule, where the function differs based on whether the selected rule is the first rule, the second rule, or the third rule;

means for generating a ranking score for the document based on the distance value; and

means for outputting the ranking score.

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Currently amended) A method performed by ~~a device~~ <u>one or more server</u>

<u>devices</u>, comprising:

identifying, using a processor ~~associated with the device~~ <u>of the one or more server</u>

<u>devices</u>, a semantic structure associated with terms in a plurality of documents, where a

number of rules are associated with the semantic structure, and where the semantic

structure includes a list including a header and a plurality of items associated with the

header;

locating, using [[the]] <u>a</u> processor <u>of the one or more server devices</u>, a first term

and a second term occurring within the list;

selecting, using [[the]] <u>a</u> processor <u>of the one or more server devices</u> and based on

a relationship of the locations of the first and second terms, at least one of the number of

rules<u>, as a selected rule,</u> to be used in determining a distance value between the first and

second terms;

    where a first rule of the number of rules is selected when the first term is

    located in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in a

    different one of the plurality of items,

    where a second rule of the number of rules, different than the first rule, is

    selected when the first term is located in one of the plurality of items and the

    second term is located in the same one of the plurality of items, and

where a third rule of the number of rules, different than the first rule and the second rule, is selected when the first term is located in the header and the second term is located in one of the plurality of items;

determining, using ~~the processor and using the at least one rule~~ a processor of the one or more server devices when the first and second terms occur in a search query, the distance value, between the first and second terms within the semantic structure, using a function that is based on the selected rule, where the function differs based on whether the selected rule corresponds to the first rule, the second rule, or the third rule ~~when the first and second terms occur in a search query~~;

ranking, using ~~the processor~~ a processor of the one or more server devices, the documents for relevancy to the search query based on the determined distance value; and

outputting, using ~~the processor~~ a processor of the one or more server devices, the rankings of the documents in response to the search query.

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, where the semantic structure is implicitly defined.

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, where the semantic structure is identified prior to the ranking.

18.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, where the documents are HTML (Hyper-Text Markup Language) documents.

19.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, where the semantic structure includes lists created with HTML tags.

20.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, where the HTML tags include paragraph tags, new line tags, bold tags, or table tags.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Currently amended) A device comprising:

a memory; and

a processor, coupled to the memory, to:

        identify a semantic structure associated with a first term and a second term occurring in a document, where a plurality of rules are associated with the semantic structure, and where the semantic structure includes a list having a header and a plurality of items associated with the header;

determine a semantically based distance relationship between the first

term and the second term in the identified semantic structure;

select one of the plurality of rules, as a selected rule, that corresponds to

~~each of~~ the distance ~~relationships~~ relationship;

where the processor is ~~configured~~ to select a first rule of the

plurality of rules when the first term is located in one of the plurality of

items and the second term is located in a different one of the plurality of

items,

where the processor is ~~configured~~ to select a second rule of the

plurality of rules, different than the first rule, when the first term is located

in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in the same

one of the plurality of items, and

where the processor is ~~configured~~ to select a third rule of the

plurality of rules, different than the first rule and the second rule, when the

first term is located in the header and the second term is located in one of

the plurality of items;

determine, using a function based on the selected rule, [[the]] a

semantically based distance value between the first term and the second term,

where the first term and the second term occur in a search query, and where the

function differs based on whether the selected rule corresponds to the first rule,

the second rule, or the third rule;

rank the document for relevancy to the search query based on the

semantically based distance value; and

provide at least some of the ranks in response to the search query.

23.   (Previously presented) The device of claim 22, where the processor is

further to:

locate implicitly defined semantic structures in the document; and

use the implicitly defined semantic structures in determining the semantically

based distance value.

24.   (Previously presented) The device of claim 22, where the processor is

further to:

receive the search query.

25.   (Currently amended) A memory device containing computer-executable

instructions, the memory device comprising:

one or more instructions to receive a search query;

one or more instructions to identify an implicitly defined semantic structure

associated with terms in documents, where a plurality of rules are associated with the

implicitly defined semantic structure, and where the semantic structure includes a list

having a header and a plurality of items associated with the header;

one or more instructions to determine a semantic-based distance <u>relationship</u>

between a first term and a second term within the list;

one or more instructions to select one of the plurality of rules<u>, as a selected rule,</u>

based on the semantic-based distance <u>relationship</u> between the first and second terms

within the implicitly defined semantic structure;

where a first rule of the plurality of rules is selected when the first term is

located in one of the plurality of items and the second term is located in a

different one of the plurality of items,

where a second rule of the plurality of rules, different than the first rule, is

selected when the first term is located in one of the plurality of items and the

second term is located in the same one of the plurality of items, and

where a third rule of the plurality of rules, different than the first rule and

the second rule, is selected when the first term is located in the header and the

second term is located in one of the plurality of items;

one or more instructions to determine, using <u>a function based on</u> the selected rule,

a distance value for the first and second terms<u>, where the function differs based on</u>

<u>whether the selected rule corresponds to the first rule, the second rule, or the third rule</u>;

one or more instructions to rank the documents for relevancy to the search query

based on the distance value; and

one or more instructions to present the documents in an order influenced by the

ranking.

26.   (Previously presented) The memory device of claim 25, where the documents are HTML (Hyper-Text Markup Language) documents.

27.   (Previously presented) The memory device of claim 26, the implicitly defined semantic structure including a list created with HTML tags.

28.   (Previously presented) The memory device of claim 25, further comprising:

one or more instructions to locate explicitly defined semantic structures.